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Mr. Taft's Campaign and Its Manager.

Out West the fooling for TAFT is frankly expressed in this wise: He is the best candidate, and the only really available candidate there is in sight, until we get to Chicago. Of his disabilities there is no open dispute. The principal allegation is that the labor vote is solidly arraved against him and that he cannot possibly overcome its opposition. It is held that labor will never forgive or forget his incorrigible disposition when on the bench to construe the law according to the statutes. It is openly avowed that having proved himself an honest and an able Judge, a fearless and faithful public servant, he is no longer fit to be President. There is nothing furtive or disingenuous about the argument. It is all open and above board.

Besides the hostility of labor, Mr. TAFT has to face the disaffection of the negro voters. The Brownsville episode rankles in their hearts. We should not wonder if this were true, but we do not believe that the manager of Mr. TAPT's campaign is seriously disconcerted over it. When he invited BOOKER T. WASHINGTON to the domestic table in the White House he had not as yet gained the deep political insight which led to the consummate master stroke of Brownsville. The former was a blunder and a costly one at that. For the time being it won the affections of the negroes, as it was intended that it should; but what to a practical man is the value of the affection of people who are deprived of their power to vote?

Of course, we recognize the fact that the negroes are all wrong in their hostility to Mr. TAFT. He condemned the disgraceful and cowardly outrage perpetrated at Brownsville and he sought to annul and undo it. No one better than Mr. TAFT understood the shame of it, but his efforts were useless. Mr. ROOSEVELT obliterated him. The colored people should have no feeling on that score against Mr. TAFT; rather should their sentiments be those of grateful recognition.

However, so long as it is Mr. TAFT'S campaign it is in able hands. What with the appointment of none but Southern Democrats to the Federal offices, the crushing humiliation and disgrace of the negro soldiers, the studied propitiation of the new cotton trust and the deference shown to the arson trust in Kentucky, it is even supposable that Mr. ROOSEVELT may have overdone the subject. Perhaps he feels that he has more than atoned for the Booker Washington affair and now proposes to adjust the equipoise to a nicety by forcing the railroads to abolish all discrimination respecting colored passengers. If Mr. TAFT's passivity is equal to his apparent receptivity there will be no explosion.

We confess, however, to an irritated sense of curiosity as to how Mr. TAFT really regards other tactics which are being operated in his alleged behalf. He has the reputation of an honest and open minded gentleman as remote as possible from the quality of a moral impostor or of a Tartuffe. How does he like the open reproof of labor's pretensions for public effect and its compensation by private assurances of love and devotion? For our part, we abhor and despise that sort of thing, but then we are neither a candidate nor a professional labor statesman. How does he like the arbitrary suspension and nullification of the decree of the Supreme Court in the interests of a highly specialized and privileged class whose members have proclaimed their determination not to vote for him? Does he approve of the nullification of the provision respecting arbitration in cases of labor disputes. between railroads and their employees? Would he in like circumstances have instructed the Interstate Commerce Commission that in all such cases of arbitration the decision must be against the railroads; in other words, that no reduction of wages should be permitted so long as the applying railroad was earning its operating expenses? Does he unreservedly approve the conciliation of the powers of predatory wealth at this psychological moment by affording them the occasion of propitious legislation

security under the shelter of a like obliquity vouchsafed to labor? Can he condone the moral infamy of the Hepburn bill, an act to tap the till of the corporation on the one hand while legalizing the basest of crime on the other?

The Republican party seems to be equal to any demand of this sort, but we cannot be made to believe that Mr. TAFT is equal to any such demand.

By the way, is WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT convinced that he is really to be the beneficiary of all these edifying lucubrations?

Under the Constitution of 1895 the Forty-fifth Senate district consisted of the counties of Niagara. Genesee and 1906 the county of Genesee was put in the Forty-fourth district, with Wyoming and were erected into the Forty-seventh district: The apportionment of 1906 was declared unconstitutional after the election of that year, at which STANISLAUS P. FRANCHOT of Niagara Falls had been chosen Senator from the Forty-seventh district.

In 1907 the Legislature passed a new apportionment law, under which Niagara and Orleans continue to constitute the Forty-seventh Senate district. The Senators elected under the law of 1906 continued to hold office. Mr. FRANCHOT died this year, thus causing a vacancy in the Senate, and to fill this vacancy the Governor has just called a special election. The interesting feature of the situation is the question whether the legal district represented by Mr. FRAN-CHOT exists to-day, and therefore whether the Governor has authority to call an

The Senators now in office are de facto officers. The law under which they were chosen was unconstitutional, and is no longer operative. The new legal Fortyseventh district, which is the same territory comprised within the Fortyseventh district set up in the unconstitutional law, was brought into existence by Chapter 727 of the laws of 1907. which became a law on July 25 of that year, having been passed by the Legislature in extraordinary session.

As it is beyond the power of the Governor to call an election under a law which has been declared to be unconstitutional, the election must be under the present law, the statute of 1907. As the district is physically the same as that which Mr. FRANCHOT represented there is no question of inequality of representation or double representation. This simplifies the practical issue but leaves the legal question unchanged. Obviously the Governor regards his power to call the election as unassailable. Perhaps it will not be questioned. Yet it might be contested in the Senate, and the remarkable spectacle might be presented of the de facto Senators refusing a seat to the successful candidate on the ground that they were chosen unconstitutionally, and that he did not possess that unusual qualification for office.

The People Generally Deserve What They Get.

The vicissitudes of peoples are rightly apprehended only when they become history. It is given only to a very few to discern history in the making. Perhaps no one in France understood the Revolution as well as BURKE understood it. Its true significance dawned upon the French people only after a generation had passed. A casual visitor in Paris during the Reign of Terror might have been dimly conscious of its horrors and its violence. He would have been seriously impressed with the inconvenience it entailed, but he would have joined the public at the theatre on the night after Louis XVI. was beheaded. and the meaning of everything that happened about him, except as news, would have escaped him.

Monarchies are overthrown, and at the time it is not rightly known why they fall. Republics, even the best of them. are obliterated without their people knowing why. Even a monarchy cannot endure without the sympathy and participation of the governed. How much less a republic, which by its very nature can subsist only upon the principles

on which it was founded. When those principles are no longer reflected clearly in the character of a republic, when the leading men neglect them for the seductions of opportunism and their devotion to public duty is no longer impersonal, when the pursuit of riches becomes more important than the conservation of liberty, then the people of that republic are in danger of losing the form of that to the substance of which they have already proved

A wise man has said, "Look to your great cities, for they are the plague spots of the nation." They are, one and all, cesspools of corruption, and are tolerated and acquiesced in as such by the people who dwell in them, whose mingled complicity and indifference are alone responsible for the condition. This has been of long standing, but the contagion of it is no longer confined to the cities. It has spread to the State, and the latter is become as rotten as the former.

Our executives are all politicians instead of statesmen. Our legislatures are temples of the law which are infested by lawmongers and men who levy obscene tribute. The main industry of legislators is the blackmail of business. and an indispensable occupation of business is the purchase of either immunity from blackmail or the acquisition,

by bribery, of corrupt privilege. The contagion is no longer confined to either city or State. The whole Federal system is infect. We have politicians everywhere and scarce a statesman to be discerned. Senators and Representatives have only one object in life-personal advantage or aggrandizementhow they shall contrive to keep in their places, how perpetuate themselves in power and pelf. The old Federal definition of a Senator or of a Representative is obsolete. As originally conceived and dropped by the Senate committee. He defined by the founders of the republic | has already announced his purpose to neither to-day exists. We always look into the armor belts himself. None

an execrable-Senate that sought to impeach ANDREW JOHNSON. To-day that Senate looks like a band of high minded and fearless patriots.

The cities are rotten and the citizens demur not. The State is a sink of corrup- | civilian eye. The school girls will intion and the voters send the corruptionists and the corrupted back to their places at each recurring election. And Washington is a vast mirror in which is reflected the political pollution of the whole United States, with the stupid, absorbed, apathetic and indifferent masses in the background.

Is it that the people are devoid of spirit and have no consciousness of country? The Niagara-Orleans Senate District. Are they no more deserving of the blessings of liberty and equality secured to

them by the founders? Else why are they unmoved and in-Orleans. By the apportionment act of sensible to the perversion of their own rights and powers? Has the Constitution served its purpose and become a Livingston, while Niagara and Orleans | rag, and have they really ceased to care any more about anything save the pursuit of wealth and sensuality? What can they expect and what do they deserve when they look on supinely while the public treasury is openly plundered to satisfy private ambition, while the property of the nation is sequestered and applied to private use and the whole power, means and authority of the nation are made subservient to individual ends and to purposes that are without honor?

History is indeed being made apace, and it is when the process is most acute that the public is most blind.

The Democratic Drift in New England

The abandonment by the Democratic State committee in New Hampshire of a plan to indorse the candidacy of Mr. BRYAN does not surprise those who are familiar with conditions in that State. Only the extreme radicals and such men as have staked their political future upon the desperate chance of Mr. BRYAN'S acceptance by the American people were concerned in the attempt to have the New Hampshire delegates instructed for him. The old line Democrats and those progres sive leaders who, taking advantage of Republican dissension, have placed New Hampshire within striking distance of a victory in the State, long ago determined that they would give no countenance to the Bryan futility. Thus an observer writes of the actual situation:

"New Hampshire seems inevitably destined send to Denver eight delegates favorable to the nomination of another, preferably Johnson, BRYAN's support in this State is indistinguishable. No Democrat of influence has yet appeared to urge his candidacy; and the indiscretion of those who ave attempted it has met sudden and chilling regroof. To these devoted fanatics the situation is sexplicable, but to all clse it is as lucid as ether.

In the State election of 1906 the Repubcan candidate for Governor failed of election by a majority, which the Constitution requires, and his plurality over the Democratic candidate was only 2,909. The Democrats gained twenty-two members of the House of Representatives and three Senators. Naturally the party is in no mood to permit a Bryan ascendency in its councils, and it does not forget that the Republican pluralities in Presidential elections from 1876 to 1892 inclusive averaged 3,208, and that the Republican pluralities in the Bryan years of 1896 and 1900 were 35,794 and 19,314 respectively

We suspect that thoughtful Democrats in other New England States than New Hampshire are equally opposed to instructions for Mr. BRYAN and are just as fixed in their faith that his nomination at Denver would mean certain and demoralizing, perhaps disintegrating, defeat for his party. Even in Massachusetts the Bryan crowd reads the writing on the wall and its numbers diminish

Secretary Metcalf for the Senate!

There will be great things doing on the Pacific coast before long according to all present indications. From California's remotest south frontier to Puget Sound the people are preparing for a demonstration of special magnitude. The fleet, after target practice in Magdalena Bay. is to be welcomed everywhere. Great multitudes, arrayed in gala costume and bearing flowers, are to gather all along the line. In some places where there is nothing but a rocky coast and no harbor the crowd is to be greatest; at Port Harford, for example. There the school children from many miles around are to be assembled to welcome our battleships and make a fuss over them. Maybe the ships can get into the "harbor," maybe not; but it will make no difference. The ships can stay in the offing if necessary. Some of the crews will come ashore and lard the lean sides of Port Harford with their easy going funds. Then they will sail away to the next place.

Secretary METCALF is girding up his loins for an excursion to San Francisco. He has already chosen his immediate personal attendants - Admiral GLASS, retired, but still on assignment at Oakland, and a young naval officer named MET-CALF, presumably a relative. GLASS is the officer who shortly after DEWEY'S exploit in Manila Bay, May 1, 1898, took the cruiser Charleston up to the island of Guam and bombarded it for an hour or so, whereupon the Spanish Governor, who had not had a visit for six months and who knew nothing of contemporaneous happenings, sent out a cutter with his aide-de-camp on board to thank the American commander for his salute and to apologize for not returning it on the ground that he was out of ammunition. Unhappily M. OFFENBACH was then de-

ceased, but THE SUN told the story. The other member of Mr. METCALF'S personal staff calls for no particular mention. He is young and presumably ardent, but that does not matter. The fact of chief consequence is that the Secretary, immediately surrounded by Admiral GLASS and young METCALF, will review the fleet in San Francisco harbor. It will be the moment of his glory, the occasion of his apotheosis; his ships, his officers, with GLASS and METCALF environing him on every side and gratulations and felicitations surcharging the

circumambient. In this atmosphere no doubt Secretary METCALF will realize his thought of continuing the investigation unaccountably whereby they should glide into putative thought that it was a deplorable-even of the line experts testified to suit his ends. Now he will transfer the inquiry

to San Francisco Bay with different and of course much more satisfactory results. He will look into the thing himself. He will see the armor belts with a dorse his views with ardor and with wreaths and glad outcries. We look for unusual, not to say extraordinary results. At all events, the line officers, WINSLOW, KEY, HILL, SIMS, VOGELGE-SANG and others, will be thrown down, fore that body. and that will be the last of them.

But Secretary METCALF will be, or certainly he ought to be, as things go, made Senator from California. Is that, after all. the real purpose of all this hullabaloo?

New York's Game.

The resolve of a copper person no longer "to try to beat New York at its own game," but to return to the less complex life of Montana mining camps, there to recoup what the New York game has detached from his fortune, implies | something of wide interest. What is 'New York's own game"? The lobster? No, that necessary of life is imported from shores whose venders buy naught half so precious as the stuff they sell. The game the departing and wiser miner speaks of is no game food, indigenous or exotic, but a play of wit and skill in favor of passing an employers' Hability act. whereat the stranger who comes to scoop oft stops to pay.

Upon occasion for calm reflection, when reposing on some hospitable mountainside where the stars appear closer, friendlier even than those which sparkle no more brightly in the Waldorf's Peacock Alley, his brow cool, no longer vexed and fevered by a copper king's crown the loser at New York's own game may think of it in more supeptic mood than now. New York's game is open to all, in all its varied phases, financial, social political, artistic, literary. Its prizes are distributed with no jealous regard to geography, creed or previous condition of cert tude-of cocksureness. Here the stranger may make his choice of table and dealer, and play red or blue chips as his resources of money, wit, art, learning or grace may suggest.

But the player must observe the rules The managers of the game and the dealers have rights it is dangerous to disregard. Also they were not born yesterday, nor in Hoboken. Check gorillas, as in Montana those who slyly pick up other players' winning wagers from a faro table are called, are not esteemed at New York's game. Not if they are caught at it.

The rules of the game frown upon too eager effort to butt in too far and too soon; a becoming modesty in new players is accounted a virtue. A choice of table betokens a sane novice. One whose early advantages have signally fitted him to perform the midnight services of a yeggman at a country post office should hesitate before appealing to the public to repose its confidence and its bank balances in his keeping. No matter what admirable aptitude a new comer may have in shifting a pea under the shells, he should not obtrude the accomplishment in mixed company. He may encounter a superior even at that artistic pastime.

The game has many prizes, and many have been won by players from lands more distant than Montana; but seldom have those who won and kept been indifferent to the cherished truth that a boastful spirit guides to a pit.

Whatever else may be urged against Mr. TAFT, he is the most willing and obliging of candidates. Delegations that know what they want have only to ask it of him and he strives to please, but his diurnal schedule is much too long and crowded, and he seems to be in a perpetual struggle to avoid the commonplace. If some humane recreation is not allowed him by his managers he will say something downright flat and trite

The significant reorganization of the board of governors of the Manhattan Club which took place Thursday evening is likely to revive political interest in that fine old Democratic institution. Notwithstanding the fact that the first declaration of its constitution is that "its object is to advance Democratic principles," the club has been politically asleep since the advent of BRYAN in 1898. There is promise of an immediate awakening in the announce ment that ex-Chief Justice Morgan J O'BRIEN was elected president of the club ex-Chief Justice ALTON B. PARKER vicepresident and Mr. HENRY D. MACDONA secretary. The first number on the Man hattan's new programme of activity is a banquet to the Justices of the Appellate Division, the date of which will be set some time after Easter. There is reason to suspect that future entertainments will take a more decided political color.

Revived Memories.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I was greatly edified by the editorial paragraph on Mrs. Langtry and Carson City and Nevada City, printed April And yet-this is on the strict q. t., you know-one

For the article in question was manifestly in Still, it spoke of the Virginia and Truckee Railroad Carson City and Truckee, and it said tha Nevada City was Hangtown. Now, those of us who yet taste the savor of "Nick's" Hangtown roast (sausages, eggs and oysters) know that Hang-

crossing the Sierra Nevadas"-he would say "Sierras" and quit at that, or he would say "the Sierra Nevada. NEW YORK, April 9. Pernyian Estimate of Theodore Roosevelt.

And no dyed in the wool Californian would say

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Ser: In looking ver a paper from Lima, Peru, published at the ime our fleet was in the bay of Callao, I came across a article on the life of our President. In it is this

paragraph: Roosevelt, Republican and Democrat, has a horror of the machine politician; he abominates the professional agitator that provokes strikes and foments public contentions and popular move-ments. This Chief of a great mercantile nation adores military virtues. 'All dominating races, he has said, and he repeats it frequently, 'have FRED S. PRILIPS. NEW YORK, April 9.

The Extra Session.

If Congress won't make laws Against possession To stop the mutiny And retrogression

An extra session. if Legislatures kill

And won't exterminate each bad profession. What is their settled doom An extra session And thus it is we say

"Tis our impression In punishment of sin The future life may be

MCLANDBURGE WILLOW

DUMPED ON THE COURT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The growing habit of Congressmen of voting for laws urged by the White House or by interested classes and fashioned by their lawyers in the sole interest of such classes, and either not fully debating the necessity and propriety of such legislation or if not persuaded of its constitutionality dumping the questions on the Supreme Court, is illustrated by what happened in the House on April 6, when two railway bills were be-

It is to be noted that each member of the House has sworn that he will "support this Constitution"-not such a constitution as he may prefer, but "this Constitution."

The sad predicament of Mr. Parker of New Jersey-one of the three Republican members of the Law Committee of the House who protested against even a report to the House of a pending measure-THE Sun has adequately and appropriately considered. But there are other Repub licans to be overhauled, such as Mr. Payne of New York (lawyer), Mr. Keifer of Ohio (lawyer) and Mr. Mann of Illinois (lawyer) Mr. Payne, voting for the bill, said:

"When the former bill was before the House I said gentlemen around me that I feared it was uncon itutional, but it meets the approbation of th counsel for the locomotive engineers: and there may receive the same decision from the Supreme rt of the United States when it gets there, but shall vote to-day as I voted a year and a half ago

If a bill is approved by the lawyer of the class clamoring for legislation Mr. Payne votes for it even although he thinks it unconstitutional. What has become of his oath of office? Mr. Keifer said:

"I believe that unless the third section of the bil amended before is becomes a law it is baldly inconstitutional.

Where is his oath of office? When a little later another railway bill vas pending this conversation took place: Mr. Cox of Indiana-Suppose an ex-employe seeking employment; does the gentleman believe that this bill is broad enough to allow the road to

sue a pass to him' Mr. Manu-I do not know. I have read the sec tion in the bill three or four times and I do not know It is like all legislation prepared out ide of this body do not know. I shall vote for the bill on the same theory that I voted for the employers' liability ill-nobody knows whether it is constitutions or not. I doubt if anybody can read the employ-ers' liability bill and tell what it means. I am sure nobody can tell exactly what this means in the main it covers the question. It is in the form that the gentlemen asked for it.

Mr. Mann is one of the Republican law yers in the House who are at once lights and leaders. He confesses to ignorance of the meaning of legislation for which he votes, but votes for it because the lawyer of the locomotive engineers asks for it. He insisted that "nobody knows" whether the employers' liability bill "is constitutional or

It is a queer "support" that Mr. Payne, Mr. Keifer and Mr. Mann give to "this Constitution" when they throw down the reins of power entrusted to them by voters in their districts, vote for hills which they do not understand but believe to be forbidden by "this Constitution" and then condemn members of the Supreme Court who do not in like manner disregard their oaths of CONSERVATIVE POLITICS. office. WASHINGTON, April 9.

A Great Mathematical Reformer TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Several years ago I gave notice to the public that the "Theory o "Analytical Plane and Spherical Trigonometry" and "Coordinate Conic Sections" were il demonstrated on false mathematical principles.

No effort has yet been made to effect any changes. either from the love of the present professors of nathematics for their old abominations or fron their inability to examine into this matter. New books have been printed, and the old

have invariably been copied from the old books. Now I can correct all the algebraical errors the trigonometrical errors may be cast out-and I can reconstruct the whole course of trigonometry plane and spherical) on synthetical grounds which no other man in existence can do. The coordinate method for the conic section

may also be cast out--as well as all kinds of differ entials-which have no application (those for root rigonometrical quantities and logarithms, being utterly rotten.)

The only matter which can be retained relative o infinitely small quantities is the summ. he same powers of the successive digits, 1, 2, 3, &c. in being an infinitely great number), which sum mation for the fifth powers, for instance, is:

being a quantity less than anything which can

be assigned. This expression is the integral of the last term of the series. This summation gives the means of determining

the volumes of paraboloids and hyperboloids-also the area of the hyperbola. If the public wish for more information I an illing to furnish same to THE SUN. O'PHELAN, M. NEW YORK, April 10.

The Origin and Content of the Cocktail. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: In the article eaded "Philosophical and Historical Examination of the Cocktail" some of the conclusions derived be possible to confine within the covers of such work an adequate description of the cocktail The seeker after truth can only succeed in his quest f he is directed along the line of personal experence, the fountainhead of all knowledge. The statement that in addition to the spirit, sugar and itters an aromatic flavoring may be added is mis

leading by implication and impossible in practice. It is the bitters that contributes the aromatic prop-

erties, and vermouth is a bitter cordial.

It is greatly to be regretted that Reddall did not give us in "Fact, Fancy and Fable" a description of the drink served by Betsy Flannagan, so that the much mooted question of the actual origin of the drink to day known as a cocktail might be answered. If Dame Flannagan's drink was a ong drink, a shandy saff, a punch; in other words, if it was a long drink intended as a thirst quenche and not an appetizer, it was not what we to-day ommonly understand as a cocktall, which acquires is appetizing qualities from the arematic bitters it ntains. The name undoubtedly originated with etsy Flannagan, but whatever her drink may have been it has not survived. NEW YORK, April 9.

Cocktail Decision Handed Down TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: In the old

ashioned whiskey cocktail only a sufficient amount of water is used to dissolve the sugar before adding the whiskey. It contains no nutmeg. Nutmeg uld kill the bitters and the drink with i NEW YORK, April 9. BARTENDER.

Sabmitting Samples of Perpetual Motion. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SIT: Some weeks go I sent a private note down to you asking what ou would pay for a scoop, which you printed The thing has been copied in various newspapers. friend directed my attention to this, and I am us appraised of your treachery. You can square ourselves by offering specimens of my work. I have two perpetual motion machines going now

the form of perpetual motion candidates for President of the United States. One I call Tom and the other Bill. Tom is a modest, unpretentious honest affair down in Georgia running perpetually day and night without grease. Bill is built on s different design. He has to have grease or he won't go at all, so I have put wheels in his head and giso on his beels and set him running about the country looking for grease, and he runs a little faster than Tom, chiefly after the grease pot, which I keep fastened on a pole about ten feet in front of him-

chasing the rainbow, as it were, rainbow chasing principle is one of the finest in the science of the perpetual motion, for So does the grease pot if Bill goes, and Etll will always go if the grease pot is up.

CHARLES ROOMS.

Inventor of the above designs. CHICAGO, Ill., April 8.

Another Brownsville Sop. Knicker-The President is suddenly concerned

that negroes shall have equal accommodations with whites on the railroads. Booker-Why not in the army?

CITY BOOKKEEPING REFORM. Progress Toward a Civilized Municipal

Accounting System. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: THE SUN of March 17 contained an article entitled Merely Bookkeeping" in which you state that the "chaotic condition of the city's accounts is at the bottom of much misgovernment, intentional and deliberate." go on to say that the removal of this chaotic ondition would cause many evils to "disappear automatically" while "others would b so exposed as to be removable without diffi-You did not state then, and you failed to mention it in this morning's article. Waste of City Money," that we are at present engaged upon a plan for reorganizing from top to bottom the business methods not only of the Department of Finance but of al other city departments. It is impossible to remedy in a day, or even in a year, the defects

n methods accumulated during a century. We have not only admitted all that is as serted in your articles as to the present de fects of method, but we have published detailed description of the methods and books now used in this office and city departments, showing exactly where defects are and exactly what steps are necessary in order to correct those defects. Already employees of this department, cooperating with the Bureau of Municipal Research, have secured the installation of the accounting systems in the Department of Health, Street Cleaning Water Supply, Gas and Electricity, and Believue and Allied Hospitals, that have passed muster of those best fitted to measure the value of an accounting scheme.

The Board of Estimate and Apportionment at my request, has passed resolutions establishing the grades necessary to secure men of sufficient training to work out the pro posed reorganization. I have asked the State Civil Service Commission to create the post tions and have pledged myself in writing to appoint no men to these positions (ten expert accountants and an auditor of disbursements and an auditor of receipts) who is not a public accountant with five years ex-

I have further pledged myself to give my absolute support to these trained men fr obtaining the business methods which you suggest NEW YORK, April 9.

ANOTHER NAVAL REFORM. Inspired Report That Civilians Will Con mand Battleships in Future.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The readers of THE SUN will doubtless be interested to learn that a luminous idea has just been evolved by the Navy Department as a result of recent criticisms of the alleged defects of its bureaucratic organization This organization is as simple as it is efficient, and, as Senator Hale so justly remarks, it has successfully stood the test of three wars. It consists of eight independent bureaus. The work of getting ready for war is regulated by a procession of civilian

secretaries passing through the Departmen on their way from one political billet to an The critical examination which was brough about by the supposed necessity of answering the carping criticisms of certain civilians and young" officers has shown that the practical working of the organization is as nearly per fect as any mere human institution can well This was conclusively shown by the illuminating reports of Rear Admiral Converse (retired) and Chief Constructor Capps It has now been decided to apply the same beneficent principle throughout the navy particularly on board the battleships, the present organization of which differs so fundamentally from the simpler and more

harmonious system of the Department. In consequence the ships are vastly less peaceful consequence the snips are vasity less peaceful and efficient than they might be.

The trouble with the battleships is that though each enjoys the inestimable benefit of having seven of the eight bureaus repre-sented on board, and though each is to that extent a miniature navy department, benefit is largely neutralized and the thority of the Captain diminished by diminished and the thority of the Captain diminished by the presence of an executive officer, who stands between the little ship bureaus and the Captain. Moreover, the Captain, being an unsefentific sailor, with all the prejudices of his class, is not capable of unbiassed judgment concerning the work of his little bureaus. It is therefore manifest (and this is the luminous idea above referred to: that in view of the perfect success of the Navy Depart meut organization, as shown by the recen Congressional hearings, each battleship should be commanded by a civilian, unharm pered by a meddlesome executive officer, thus permitting each of the little bureaus on board

pered by a meddlesome executive officer, thus permitting each of the little bureaus on board to manage its own affairs, to act with full authority, and to communicate directly with the unbiassed, open minded civilian Captain, if the same manner that the bureaus of the Navy Department communicate directly with the civilian Secretary.

The above scheme, besides rendering friction impossible and increasing the fighting efficiency of the ships, will also permit the Department to solve one of the knotty problems concerning the personnel. For example, there is much embarrassment because the present Captains, being well stricken in years, are naturally set in their ways and have too many opinious as to how to prepare their ships for war. The consequence is that they frequently offer strenuous resistance to allowing the little bureaus to run the ship. If however, the Captains were civilians, having no ideas at all on military subjects, such resistance would of course disappear, and for each of the same reasons that there is always peace and harmony in a navy department composed of independent bureaus and one peace and harmony in a navy department composed of independent bureaus and one

omposed of independent bureaus and omposed of independent bureaus and invitant rubber stamp secretary to promulgate orders. The news of the baving got out (through of this scheme having got out (through one of the usual "leaks", there have been one of the usual "leaks", there have been one of the usual "leaks"), there have been numerous and anxious inquiries as to the requirements for the new captains. As usual, the Department denies all knowledge of the matter, but it may be stated with confidence that the candidates need waste no midnight oil in preparing for the prospective examinations, as there will be no requirements. The object sought is peaceful and harmonious administration, and as this cannot well be attained where there are differences of opinion, those candidates will be selected who have the least knowledge of not well be attained where there are differences of opinion, those candidates will be selected who have the least knowledge of injitary and naval affairs and whose mental equipment is such as to preclude their forming any opinions whatever.

In the event of war of third, of course, harmonious peace scheme will, of course, be abandoned, as has always been the case in the past and both the Department and the ships will be organized on a military basis, after which the necessary measures will be taken to prepare for hostilities. The basic principle of the new scheme is: In time of peace prepare for peace; in time of war prepare for war.

Cock Robin. In the event of war or threat of war the WEEHAWKEN, April 9.

Jeer for Diplomatic Academic Authority. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I hand you rewith a package of backbone for the faculty of the New York University. I do not know just how to address them direct. Will you please for-Ward? If you think the lead wire too stiff, the twine

If you think the seaso will still be found to be an improvement over the will still be found to be an improvement over the will still be found to be an improvement over the NEW HAVEN, April 9. Will the Asphalt Trust Get the Dead Sea?

From Dafly Consular and Trade Reports The bitumen from Judea is generally tu large pieces mixed with earthy substance clay and sand. It is worth as much as \$180 a ton. It rarely contains oxygen, resembling somewhat

Judess bitumen floats in pieces of varying size on the Dead Sea, and is washed up principally on the western shore, where the Arabs collect it. bitumen rises from the depths and forms telets, which were remarked in ancient times and described by Strabo. The local carthquakes have the effect of augmenting these deposits. In the year 1834 after a severe shock of earthquake, a mass of twenty ions was thrown up on the southern coast: in 1827 when a sharp shock was felt all over Syria, a mass of fifteen tons came to the surface

The bituminous deposits of Judes, from the course extremity of the Dead Sea to the source of the River Jordan, lie in a remarkable manner along an axis parallel to that of the basin. These corsist either of brecciated bituminous veins sur-rounded by limestone or of impregnated asphalt. The deposits along the western coast of the Dead sea to the source of the River Jordan are the fol lowing: Waddy Sebeh, Waddy Mayawat, Neb dusa and Hasbeya at the northern extremity of the River Jordan. Other deposits are known exist principally around Tiberias, but they have

not been the subject of any special study. The Final Test The Angel was making up the list. "Put me down," said the man, "as one who w admit that my dog bites and my baby cries." And lo. Ben Adhem's name led all the rest

The Weather. Knicker-Business is looking for a rainbow Bocker-And gets only stolen thunder

NEW BOOKS. An Expellent Play.

Mr. Peroy Mackaye's drama of "The carecrow" (The Macmillan Company) is ounded upon Nathaniel Hawthorne's sketch of Feathertop, though it has abundant ramifications of an original character. It provides for some ingenious stage work which, if skilfully accomplished, should both entertain and startle the spectator To find witchcraft going on in a Massachusetts town late in the seventeenth century cannot, of course, surprise the historical sense; it is the present day sense looking somewhat thoughtlessly backwar that gets the shock. It will be recalled what a disposition to goosefiesh the observer has when Mephistopheles exercise his peculiar powers in the convivial scene in "Faust" and the liquor spurts out flame and sulphurous clouds. Here we have this arch performer again, and he lets us see that even in a land where invention has risen to distinguished heights and where it is not uncommon to find people reputed to be as ingenious as the devil he is still prepared to maintain his bad preeminence. Dickon here, who is the Prince of Darkness in Yankee form, does wonderful things before our eyes. Goody Rickby, the female blacksmith, sometimecalled Blacksmith Bess, fashions the frame work of the scarecrow. She beats out the white hot ribs of iron on her anvil an welds them on to the iron backbone and the iron sternum. But Dickon does the rest. A masterpiece is wanted, something to fool the crows, and he proves his quali

He explains to us as he works. A poke

for conscience and a broomstick for image ination; they make two fine legs to wall on. Flails for the arms, a pumpkin for the head; look at his golden smile! Hall Phoebus Apollo! Bellows for his lungs. beet for his heart and a strange vegetable miscellany for the rest of his insides; but it is when the effigy has been clothed in scarlet breeches and a gold embroidered coat with lace ruffles and when a corncol pipe has been put in its mouth that the spectator is called upon to behold what if it is well done, must prove to be a highly disturbing metamorphosis. Already Dicket has indicated his supernatural powers He has come and gone in puffs of smoke He has performed surpassing tricks of strength and agility. He has danced before the mirror of truth (the same mirro that is in the Hawthorne story), and as he has danced the mirror has reflected for us the devil in truthful form, with horus and hoofs and jaunty tail. But now as Dickon sets the corncob pipe alight the scarecrow begins to throb and tremble The beet juice pulses through its veins 'Puff! Puff!" ories Dickon. The tobacco smoke is the breath of life for the creature that he has fashioned. Also it grows rapidly to be a thick cloud, in the penetralia of which the scarecrow is swallowed up and the handsome Lord Ravenebane, who is specifically Marquis of Oxford, Baron of Wittenberg, Elector of Worms and Count of Cordova, is born. It is no harm to say that Lord Ravensbane comes up through a trap door, for if the business is well done the spectator will not remember it.

fications as a builder

We follow Lord Ravensbane, accompanied by Dickon in neat black with a white stock. to the home of Justice Gilend Merton and there see him at the business of bewitching the Justice's niece, Rachel, who was already engaged indeed, but who, except for that circumstance, does not deserve to be singled out for particular blame because she dearly oved a lord. It was an interesting peouliarity of this wooing that the noble suito was obliged to smoke his cornoob pipe all the while it was going on. The instant he ed his heart went wrong; the best re fused to continue beating when deprived of its stimulus of nicotine. His lordship was the soul of candor. Speaking of England. Rachel said to him: "Do describe it to us. We are so isolated here from the grand world. Do you know, I always imagine England to be an enchanted isle, like one of the old Hesperides, teeming with fruits of solid gold." "Ah, yes!" said Ravensbane. "my mother raises them." "Fruits of gold?" inquired Rachel, wishing to make sure. "Round like the rising sun," said Ravensbane. "She calls them-ah! punkins." "Scoundrel Scoundrel!" muttered the Justice aside, and grinding his teeth. But we know that it was true. Goody Rickby did raise pumpkins. and Dickon had used one of them to make

his lordship's head. Mr. Mackaye calls this a tragedy of the diarous. It ands tragically, Lord Ravensbane looking into the mirror of truth and perceiving there, as the spectators again perceive, what stuff he is made of. "Speak abject enigma! Ah! with what vacant hor ror it looks out and yearns toward me Peace to thee! Thou poor delirious mute prisoned in glass and moonlight, peace Thou canst not escape thy goal, nor I break in to thee. Poor shadow, thou-Stand back, inanity! Thrust not thy mawkish face in pity toward me. Ape and idiot! Scarecrow!-to console me! Ha. ba!- 1 flail and broomstick! a cob and gourd and pumpkin, to fuse and sublimate themselves into a mage philosopher who puffeth metaphysics from a pipe and discourse! sweet philanthropy to itself-itself. God! Dost Thou hear? Itself!" That is language that can be effective on the stage. There is more of it to the mirror, and more when Ravensbane turns himself to the moon What face are you, high up through the twinkling leaves? Why do you smile upon me with such white beneficence? Or why do you place your viewless hand upon my brow and say, 'Be comforted'? Do you not like all the rest, turn aghast your eyes away from me-me, abject enormity grovelling at your feet? Gracious being, do you not fear-despise me? To you alone am I not hateful, unredeemed? O white peace of the world, beneath your gaze the clouds glow silver, and the herded cattle, slumbering far afield, crouch - beautiful. The slough shines fustrous as a bridal veil. "A most poetified pumpkin!" says the image in the glass, plainly at Dickon's dictation, and there is dialogue then that will stir the auditor or the reader.

A curious play, vigorous, imaginative and absorbing. In a preface the author has something to say of its underlying significance and the logic of its procedure, but it was enough for us that it was a good

Thanks Due to Mr. Robert Barr. There is freshness and vigor in Mr. Robert

Barr's story of "The Measure of the Rule" (D. Appleton & Co.). The reader will be charmed from the beginning by the clear style and the persistently entertaining humor. Tom Prentiss, who purports be his own historian, tells us here of the circumstances attending his abandonment of farm life. He was willing, we learn, to leave to others the delights of raising wheat, because he had tried them at felt that he should not suffer through renunciation. Looking back, he finds that he never has suffered from that cause. though he has constantly courted such suffering as may arise from it. He has owned farms since that time but has labored on them merely by proxy, earning his bread, as Artemus Ward described the method, by the sweat of the bired man a brow. He took to school teaching in the